

SHERLOCK BONES



1

STORY BY
YUMIA ANDO
ART BY
YUKI SATO

FLASH

BOOM

CARING
FOR
THIS
BUNCH

OF
HOMELESS
RIFFRAFF...

Heh
Heh
Heh

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

MAN...
THIS IS
NO EASY
JOB.



AND TAKE THE
APPROPRIATE
MEASURES
WHEN THE TIME
COMES.

...ALTHOUGH,
ALL I
REALLY HAVE
TO DO IS
TOSS 'EM IN
A CAGE.

CLACK CLACK



JUST DON'T
GET ANY
IDEAS ABOUT
RUNNING AWAY.

*Not that you
have fine brains
for that.*



...YOU
BE A
GOOD
BOY.



CLACK



Such a cheap
excuse for a
lock!!

RATTLE

RATTLE



...Hum.

CLACK

SMIRK...

It'd take
me only a
second to
unlock this
toy.

They once sang
my praises as
the most bril-
liant mind on
the globe.

If...I were my
former self...

CLACK

ZSHH

Or...

...Is this
some kind of
a plot?

Case 0 ♣ Encounter of the 100th Year

SHERLOCK
BONES



Volume.1

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Encounter of the 100th Year

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A black and white manga-style illustration of a young man with dark, spiky hair and a wide-eyed, excited expression. He is wearing a light-colored, short-sleeved shirt with a small patch on the left chest and dark pants with a large, dark bag slung over his shoulder. He is riding a bicycle, with his hands on the handlebars. The background is a cloudy sky.

I'm on my way to meet the newest member of my family!!

Sorry!
Forgive me?
Just for today! ♡

Takeru Wajima (16)

Second Year at London Academy High School

A close-up, black and white manga-style illustration of the same young man's face. He has a very wide-eyed, surprised expression with his mouth open in a large 'O' shape. His hair is dark and spiky.

Wh-what are you doing?!

Takeru!!

I can't wait!

Go on.

Ha ha ha.
Just have a
look around.
Take your
time.

What
kind of
dogs
do you
have?

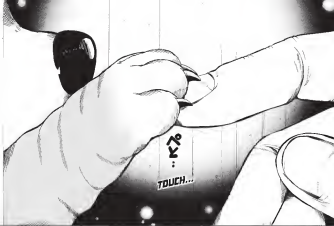
Whoa...

GRRR









...O-kay.
Well, let's
fill out the
paperwork,
then. Step
into my
office.
So, now...



Oh! He's
shaking my
hand! Ra ha
ha.



Did some-
body...
say
some-
thing?



*The pleasure
is mine!*



Arf!!

Heh heh
heh... Nice
to meet
you.



Did I
imagine
it...?

I...guess
not.



And you
got a
puppy!

Oh! I see
you've
been to
the animal
shelter.

Dad!

Kōsuke Wajima (48)

Takeru's father, police sergeant

Have you
named him
yet?

No, not
yet.

Well,
doesn't he
act like a
smart dog!

I know,
right?
That's what
I like about
him.

How about
something
like...

Petra-
schell!

Okay,
spot!

Arp!

He's not
white.

snore!

He...
couldn't
hate it
more.
And we're
in Japan

Well, our
last dog
was Taro.

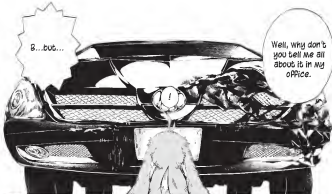
So let's just
go ahead and
call him Jiro!!

*Like that Detective
movie!*









B...but...

Well, why don't you tell me all about it in my office.



Run?!

I'm on my way to a very important business meeting.

It's crucial that I make it on time...

I don't want to take too much time...

I'd really rather not!



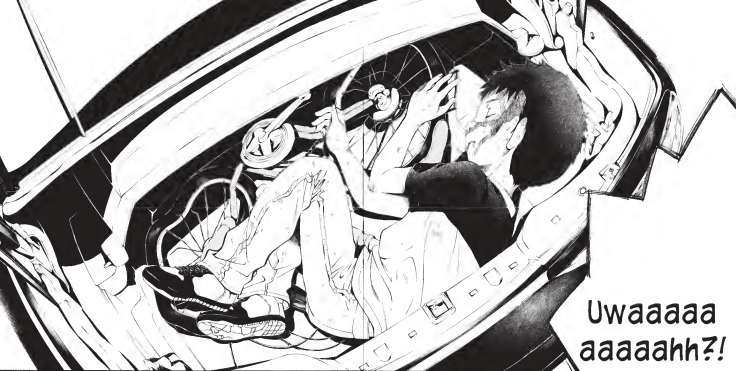
This was partly my fault.

I didn't run the light, but it's true I wasn't paying attention to traffic.









Uwaaaaa
aaaaahh?!





So you
were
driving
away with
the body!!

Eek!



I...I'm
sorry...
...snuffle...



I didn't
mean to
run him
over!!

He just
jumped out
into the
street!

SHOCK!

Uwaaaaahh!!

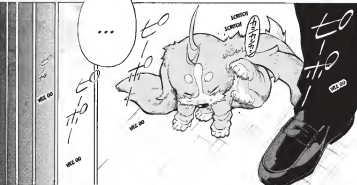


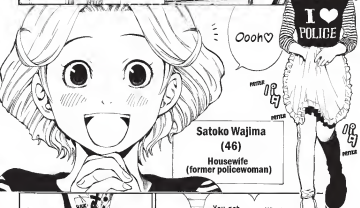
Z!

Arf!



Eh...?







I KNOW
HE WAS
NAMED
AFTER THAT
DETECTIVE,
BUT...

IT'S
WEIRD,
BUT HE
LOOKS
GOOD
WITH THE
PIPE.



What a
strange
little
dog...

Oh, my. Is that
the pipe your
grandfather
brought from
England?



LIKE A VOICE
IN MY HEAD OR
SOMETHING. ...A-
ANYWAY.



...NO, WAIT.
COME THINK
OF IT, IT WAS
REALLY WEIRD
THE WAY THAT
NAME CAME
TO ME.



LOOKING
BACK...



AND
THAT
INCIDENT
TODAY...



IT
WAS
ALL
HIM!!

DUN



HE'S THE
ONE
THAT
SHOWED
ME THE
CULT-
PRIT'S
TRUNKY



AND THE
ONE

WHO LET ME
KNOW THE
BOY WAS STILL
BREATHING?



You—

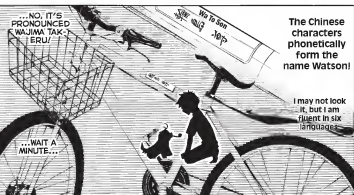
Hey!!

BAM



Hello,
my dear
Watson.







I see. It would appear that the pipe allows me to communicate with you.

This is my favorite pipe from my previous life, after all.

Why do I hear his voice in my head?!

I'm having a conversation with a dog!



How does that make any sense?!

So you, Watson, must be the reincarnation of Dr. Watson.

I attempted to speak to your mother a moment ago, but to no avail.

And apparently you are the only one who can hear me.



Dr. John H. Watson!!

You are my dear friend,

My faithful assistant,

And the entirely unsuccessful medical practitioner!!

And who's "Dr. Watson," anyway?

As I am trying to explain,



Plum Group #19
Takuru Wajima





How
do you
suppose

I knew that
that mild-
mannered
gentleman had
committed a
hit-and-run?



Thank
you...
Watson.

What a
fascinating
lighter.

HE'S
SMOKING
A PIPE!!

THE
DOG!!

Aaahh... I
haven't been
able to smoke
this pipe in
100 years...



Now, as for
the case.

A-AND HE
ACTUALLY
LOOKS GOOD
DOING IT!!



I deduced
it all with
my powers of
observ-
ation!

I would
never
rely on the
physical
abilities
of a
canine!

**Some
fact,
if you
please...**

I...I'm
sorry!



The first thing
that aroused
my suspicion



From
being a
dog!!

With your
great
sense of
smell!

And the manner in which it had been damaged.

Was the bumper of the fellow's car.



As well as another type of scratching.



There were the dents created by the motorcycle.



is distinctly higher than that of marks from a bicycle.

The position of the marks caused by a motorcycle

Elementary, my dear Watson.



Quite so! Scratches caused by a bicycle.

Another type?

Huh? How do you know?





I bet you have an easy time seeing things low down because of your short legs!!

Nice catch, Sherdog!



Furthermore, the paint left on the bumper was an entirely different color.

Ah!
That's right! The motorcycle was black...

...but the bicycle was blue!



...Is that all? Or is there more?

There is more.



I'M HIS OWNER! WHY AM I THE ONE BEING LECTURED?

S... sorry.

And my name is Sherlock. Get it right!!

I wonder if your personality was warped in the reincarnation process?

You never used to show such cheek.



And yet he stubbornly insisted on settling the matter financially.

Yeah...but he said he had an important business meeting...

The Fellow's behavior was suspect as well.

You found a witness to testify on his behalf.



I have rarely
seen such
casual dress
for an important
business
Meeting!!

Then don't
you think he
would have
been wearing a
necktie?



NOW THAT
HE MEN-
TIONS
IT....!!

!!



He was
trying to
hide it.

His shirt
would
have been
covered in
the boy's
blood.



Oh yeah!
When Dad
grabbed his
collar...



...
sorry!!



Do you
have any
idea why?

And despite
the heat of
the day, he
made no move
to remove his
jacket.



A cold!!

He
had...

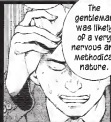


Pay
attention,
Watson.

.....?
Uh...so?

We had left
a golf bag
in the pas-
senger's
seat.

In
addition!



The
gentleman
was likely
of a very
nervous and
methodical
nature.



The car was
polished to
a shine.



The seats
had pristine
white
covers on
them.

Set his dirty
golf bag in the
passenger's
seat!!

And yet he
carelessly





Is clearly
unnatural!!

Such
behavior...



Leaving no
room for his
golf bag.

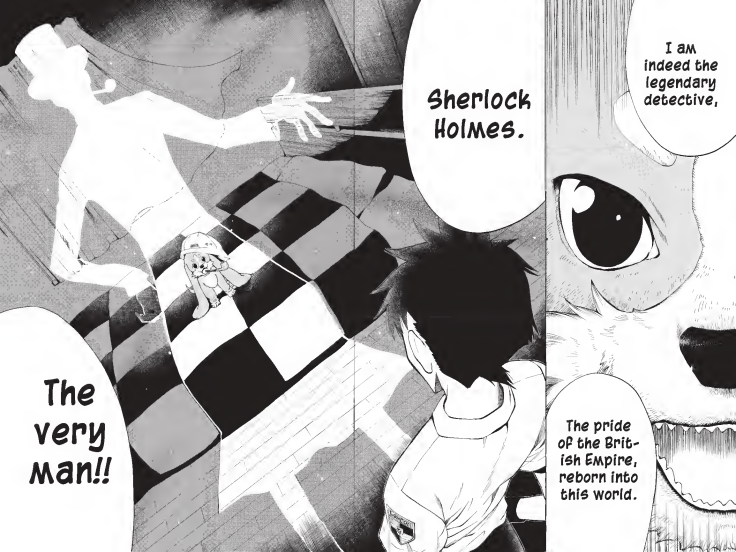


I believe,
after he hit
the boy,



He put him
and his
bicycle in
the trunk,





**The
very
man!!**

**Sherlock
Holmes.**

**I am
indeed the
legendary
detective,**

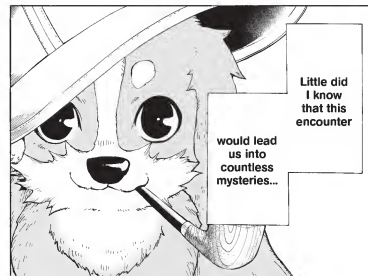
**The pride
of the Brit-
ish Empire,
reborn into
this world.**



Um...you're not a
man.

...seriously?

**That was
my fateful
encounter
with
Sherdog.**



Little did
I know
that this
encounter

would lead
us into
countless
mysteries...



It
wouldn't
be long

before we
had our first
case...

And...

...And that
we would
solve
them all.

W-wow,
Sher-
dog...

What's
that? I ain't
no Watson
Sherdog!

Mr. Holmes
is not
Sherdog!

That's
fair! I ain't
no Watson
Sherdog!

SHERLOCK
BONES





Holmes...

...murder?!

Do you
suppose it
was...

SHERLOCK BONES

くるくる

WHIRL

IT IS
AS YOU
SEE IT,
WATSON.

A dog?!

!!

Uwaaa
aahh?!

か!!
ば!!
JOLT

Where did
all these
papers
come
from?!!

は、さー

...erk!!

Aaaaahhh!!

Good
morning,
Watson.

It...
it was
just a
dream...

Hupp,
hupp...

I took the
liberty of
reading them
all, as a study
of Modern
society as
well as the
Japanese
language.

Yes. I found
the papers
outside
your front
door.

And it's
Sherlock!

Get up

Did you
make this
mess,
Sherdog?

...BUT
IT'S NOT
A DREAM.

IT WAS A
DREAM...

Front door...

They're
they're not the
papers that
was getting
ready to
take...

I see your
new life
hasn't
improved
your sleeping
habits.

?!
THUNDERBOLT

玄関...?
...





What?!! No...
anything but
that!!

If I left you
at home, you'd
be back as
the animal
shelter
before school
got out...

Man, Mom
was really
mad...



...Hey.



That's Sherlock.
...And there's
not enough
room!

Your tail's
sticking out
of my bag!!
Hide it!

ROTL

ROTL

Hey!

Sher-
dog.



Fine... Well, I guess if you just keep quiet, no one will find...





Uh...um,
Wajima-
kun.

What is
that dog
doing
there?

Karen Kikuchi
(38)

Takeru's homeroom and PE teacher





Y...yes,
Kikuchi-
sensei!



Surely you've
heard of...
those talking
toy dogs...?



He is
a cute
little
puppy!
♡

RUN?



I...I'm
sorry,
Kikuchi-
sensei...
He just
followed
me...

I'm so
stupid!
There's no
way I can
lie about
him all day!



But...

...Oh
really?







That was artificial respiration! Wajima-kun nearly drowned!



H-hey! Don't talk like that!!



I bet it was your first time, too!

On come on, who drowns in a little 25m pool?

He did it on purpose!

I'M NEVER GONNA LIVE THIS DOWN...

I can imagine the class reunion.



Stop it!
All of
you!!







Did you
already
forget...
that one of
our first-
years killed
himself?



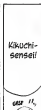
I could let
him do it on
your head!
Heh heh heh

This guy
needs to
poop, so I'm
gonna go
ble him up
outside!

Erk!

AMT!

What?!



Kikuchi-
sensei!

GAH!!



...That...



W...
Wait,
Takeru?

The nerve!!
I would
never
defecate
outdoors...



Huh...?
Y-yes?



What...?
But...

That's
okay, Niki!
It doesn't
bother me.



やばいよやばい
超超超超超

Me too,
me too!

Kikuchi-
sensei! Can I
bring a cat?

This morning...
you said the
boy who killed
himself was
your teacher's
son.

Watson.

You were
referring to
Karen Kikuchi,
were you
not?

Yeah... But I'm
the only one
in class who
knows that.

*That's why I
freaked out
earlier.*

she said
she saved
you from
drowning.

I have
Math first
period,
English
second
period.

Then I
have social
studies, and
after that
I'm going to
the pool for
PE.

When that's
done, I'll come
back to give you
some lunch, so
you be a good
dog and wait
here.

Sen...
sei...?

could

!!

Kikuchi-
sensei was
the first
person to
notice I was
drowning...

Wajima-
kun, stay
with us!

Wajima-
kun!

Next thing I
knew, I was
unconscious.
Ah ha ha...

Yeah... I can't
swim, but
I jumped in
anyway. Trying
to show off.

...

pat



She really cares about her students.

She's a good teacher.

Waaaaah!
Thank goodness you're alive!



ぎく、ぎく、ぎく

What are you muttering to yourself about, Takeru?

...

Bullying Leads to Suicide. School Covers It Up.

But then...



You're going to leave the little puppy here? Will he be okay?

I'm sorry I pulled your tail!

Waaaaah...

うーん、うーん

M...Miki...



Pleased to meet you. I'm Miki Arisaka.



He's so cute! Is this the new family member you were talking about?

What...what else can I do?

If I take him home, he'll be back at the shelter in no time.



Oh, a hello kiss? Well then...

She doesn't understand you!

The pleasure is mine. I am Sherlock Holmes!

What's your name, puppy? Mwwwah!

....!!

....

How long
until
then...?

He has four
classes.

Dogs do
not have
good
eyesight.

So I must wait
here until the
clock chimes
eight times...

SCHOOL

Class is
starting,
Niki.

TOIL...

ほろ
ぽろ

...That's
them.
Look.

See you
at lunch,
Sherdog!

2

His name is
Sherdog?

GOAL

Ah, love.

Just—
just shut
up!

And unre-
quited, I
see.

Sigh...

My pipe—

...

Okay,
everyone!



That's the
bell!

Do your
stretches
and get
changed!

Hey! Hurry
up, or we'll
miss our
lunch!

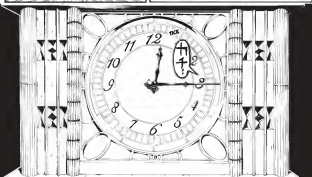
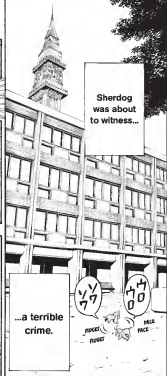
ONE TWO THREE FOUR
オウ、チー、サン、シ

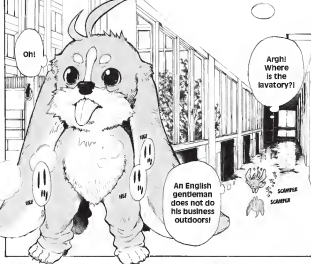
But
mean-
while...



That Sherdog...
I hope he's not
getting himself
into trouble.

















Th...

This...

This
cannot
be...

The chime
rang at the
end of class,

Announcing
the
beginning
of a mystery
to be
solved.

Wha-?!!

DING

DANG

Killed him?!

The woman
teacher



SHERLOCK
BONES

SHERLOCK
BONES



SHERLOCK BONES

This is
Sherdog,

I'm
Takeru
Wajima.

just an
ordinary
dog I picked
up from the
shelter...

I'm a second
year at
London
Academy High
School.

of the legendary
super sleuth,
Sherlock
Holmes(?!).

...or so I
thought.
But he's
actually the
reincarnation

And...

When
Sherdog
puts it in his
mouth, he
can speak
human...to
me, at least.

If you want
proof, there's
the pipe
that used to
belong to
Holmes.



The
woman
teacher...

One day,
unbeknownst
to me,

killed him?!!

Takeru's homeroom and
PE teacher
Karen Kikuchi

he
witnessed
a terrible
crime.

It...it
can't be...

Wag-
7

Case 1 ♡ The 12:20 Witness, Part 2



...Is still
fresh.

The blood...



But this
was no
suicide.

The malice
I felt... That
wasn't the
bearing of
a woman
who had
come across
a student's
suicide.

It was Takeru's
homeroom
teacher...
Karen Kikuchi.
Of that I have
no doubt.



A single
stab to
the heart.

A knife in
his right
hand...



I know the power is on.

I can't see the screen.



...And it was during my secret investigation of the phone that I ended up sending pictures of his mistress to his wife.

At which point I was sent to the pound...



Oho? He has one of those "mobile phones."

My previous owner had one as well.

A device that not only serves as a phone, but can also send text messages and photographs.



Looking closely, I can see there's some sort of a film over the screen to maintain privacy.

I see. So the angle is key... it's set up so one can only view the display from directly in front of it.

There...



Why would he take a picture of the clock tower?



Was it taken... from here?

Was...

Was...

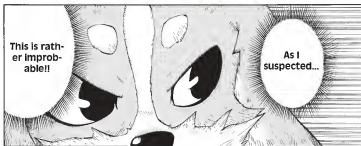
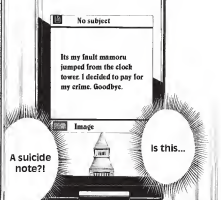


Goodbye.

There's a message above the picture.



This photograph...





And he was
already dead
at the time!



This text
message was
sent by the
murderer, to
create an alibi!!

To take a
picture and
send it to
multiple
recipients...

...stab
himself
with a
knife...

...and expire
all in one
minute?
Hardly likely.

Teacher,
Karen
Kikuchi!!

But
you were
unfortu-
nate.



Why? Because
the scene of
your crime has
been expertly
observed...

...by none other
than the world-
famous detective,
**Sherlock
Holmes!!**

Why
me?!

What's with
this dumb
dog?! Get
lost! You're in
the way!

Don't ruin
the crime
scene! Leave
everything
to me, the
world-famous
detective...

Stop! Keep
your wits
about you,
gentlemen!!

Sensei!!
Sense-
eeiii!!

Aaaahhh!!
He's dead!!







Airin-
nēchan!!

Yo.

Who'd have
thought I'd
end up at your
school on an
investigation?

Airin Wajima (24)

Tokoru's sister
Detective, Violent Crimes Division

Irene?!

A...
AL...L...

~Irene Adler~

Holmes Trivia

A former opera singer who appeared in the Holmes series. She is one of the few to have defeated the famous detective. To Holmes, Irene is the woman. There are theories that he had feelings for her.

Oh. That
means...

I got him
yesterday.
His name is
Sherdog.

Oh, he's my
new dog.

I had to bring
him to school.
It's a long
story.

hm?

What's
with the
puppy?





He was the kind of guy who did his work and tried not to make any waves.

Sometimes, when it was just the two of us at club, he'd let something slip. That's how I found out.



Yeah. His name was Mamoru Ayase...

What...? So... you're saying...

The first boy who killed himself was on the school newspaper with you?



Why didn't the school or his parents do something?

We didn't want anyone to know. He had his reasons.



That's awful... Who would do such a thing?!

And make him eat bugs and lizards.



He'd punch him in the stomach so no one would see the bruises.

Apparently Genshiro would call him out every day to torture him.



Or send embarrassing pictures of him to all his friends.



Had his reasons...?

...



I...was in
Ushimaru's
class last
year. I know
what he was
like.

He wasn't the
type to ever
feel guilty
enough to kill
himself.



Yeah.

...

Don't tell
me you
think...?



What are
you up to,
Wajima-
kun?



W...
Kakuchi-
sensei...



Pardon my
asking, but
who is this?



This
was a
murder.



Hey,
Takeru!
Why didn't
you tell
me?!

I knew the
student in
this case
was a bully.
His victim
was your
son?

Eh?!

I suppose
he's already
told you.

That Mamoru
Agase was my
son...

That's why
our last
names are
different,
and why none
of the other
students
knew.

I divorced
my husband
before I
started
teaching at
this school.

But yes,
Mamoru
Agase was
my son.

You...
didn't tell
her.

Wajima-
kun...

I am a
teacher,
after all.

But that
doesn't mean
that I'm happy
about what
happened to
Ushimaru-kun.





She would just laugh it off! Then she would raise her defenses, and we wouldn't be able to investigate!

W-wait, I thought that if anyone would give me an honest answer, it would be her.

Why would you ask her that?!

Kkuchi-sensei, did you hit Ushiwaru?!

How stupid can you be, Watson?!





But I
saw
her!

She is
the mur-
derer!!

She must
have used
some sort
of a trick to
create her
alibi!



And if
what you
say is
true...

We have
no proof!



Then Karen
Kikuchi was
teaching you
how to swim.

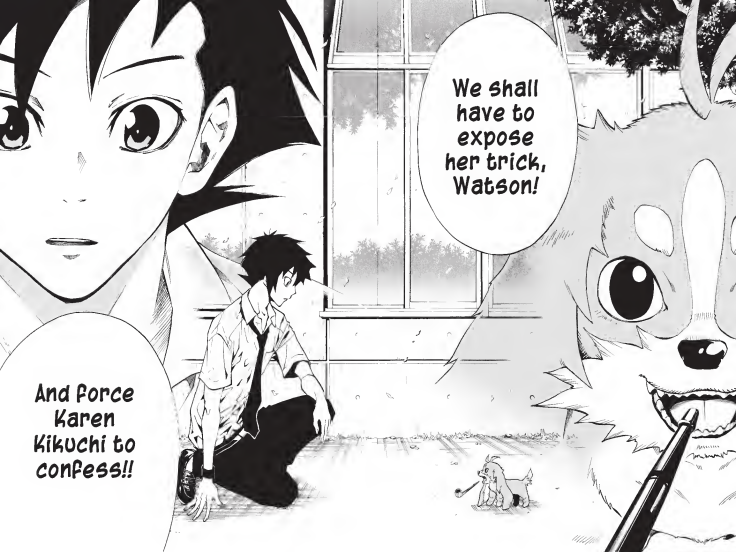
At the end
of fourth
period,
when the
murder was
committed,

If all the
students can
attest to that,
then she has a
perfect alibi.



Precisely!

I...
trick...?



**And Force
Karen
Kikuchi to
confess!!**

**We shall
have to
expose
her trick,
Watson!**



You know
what
they say,
Watson.



I hope you
have a good
reason for
telling me
to bring her
here.

Don't let
me down,
Sherdog.

This is
Ushimaru's
class.



Watson...

ワトソン
WATSON

...That's
odd.

The police
took all his
stuff into
evidence,
doh!!

ばーん
BAN

Who-?!!
T-you
dumb dog!

What happened to
"nothing
rendered"?

SWICH

What?

I was positive
I would find
some form of
evidence in his
belongings...

Young
Ushimaru's
effects are
gone!

Who're
you calling
your as-
sistants?!

Wajima-
kun?

As my
assistants, it
was your job
to anticipate
my needs and
keep some
evidence here!





It's not
that...

N...
no...



What's going
on, Wajima-
kun? Are
you playing
a little
detective
game?

Trying to be
like your big
sister?



You
shouldn't
talk like
that,
Wajima-kun.



It's just
that I
was in his
class last
year.

And I just
can't
believe that
Ushimaru...
would kill
himself.



S...sorry.

Ushimaru-kun
passed away
during Fourth
period class.

Besides.

And it was
Ushimaru-
kun.

There was
only one
student
reported to
have slipped
out of class.

I feel
responsible
for all the
second
years, so I
asked all the
teachers.

Arp!

And none of
the security
guards
saw anyone
suspicious.

The security
cameras
didn't catch
anyone
coming in.

B...but...

Maybe
it was
someone
from
outside
the
school...

B...but.









Do you notice anything?

The clock tower that you can see through here.

Look here.

Tell me how you know?

I'd be impressed if you were right.

Certainly.



Right. ...The time would have been 12:19. ...Is that what we're looking at?

From right here... before he killed himself... and...

Ushiwaro-kun... must have taken this picture

Not only that.

...Huh?



Ushimaru
was
185cm*
tall.

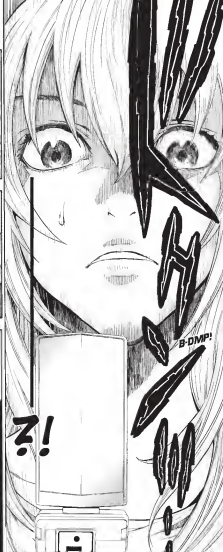
*About 6'1"

Don't you think
the angle is
a little low
coming from
someone his
size?

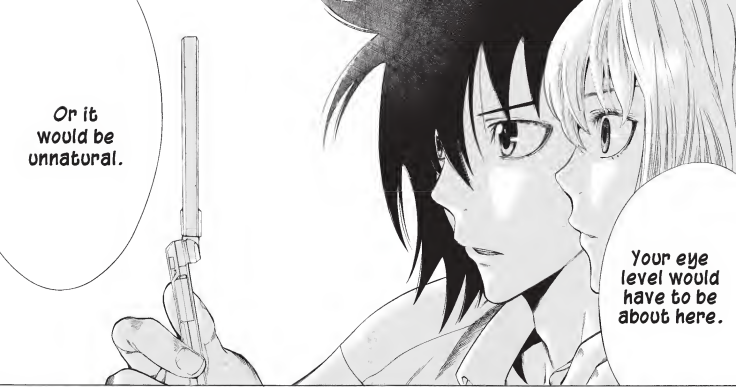
The
prob-
lem...

is the
windowsill

here
at the
bottom
of the
picture!







Or it
would be
unnatural.

Your eye
level would
have to be
about here.



Kikuchi-
sensei.



Don't you
agree?



I don't
know.



I...

Wajima-
kun.



before
he kills
himself.

I don't
know what
a boy's
feelings
are



Okay...

You go
on home
now.

I didn't
know how
my son
felt when
he killed
himself,
either...





There's no
doubt about
it! Sherdog
was right...

Kikuchi-sensei
killed Jōya
Ushimaru!!

Watson...



I see. You
believed in
her to the
last...



So...

...it's
true...?

Kikuchi-
sensei...

**SHERLOCK
BONES**





A second-year at London Academy High School.

I'm Takeru Wajima.

SHERLOCK BONES



And there's an old pipe that he says belonged to Holmes.

When he puts it in his mouth, he can communicate with human speech!



I was just an average high school student until I brought my new dog Sherdog home from the shelter.

Believe it or not, the dog is the reincarnation of the legendary detective, Sherlock Holmes!!

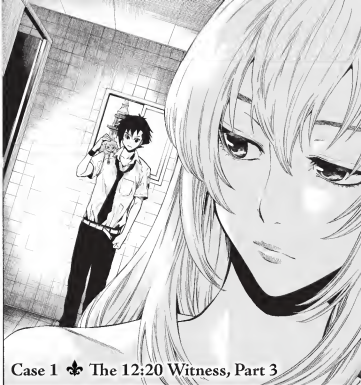


Sherdog witnessed a terrible crime...

before I knew it,



I barely had time to get over the shock, when,



Case 1 ♣ The 12:20 Witness, Part 3

SHE MUR-
DERED JÔYA
USHIMARU!!

SHER-
DOG WAS
RIGHT.

KIKUCHI-SEN-
SEI IS THE
KILLER!!



WAS
SHER-
DOG.

AND
NO ONE
WOULD
BELIEVE
TESTIMONY
FROM A
DOG.

THE ONLY
ONE TO SEE
KIKUCHI-
SENSEI COME
OUT OF THE
BATHROOM...



BUT...



SOME WAY TO
GET HER TO
CONFESS!!

SO I HAVE
TO FIND
SOME
WAY...



Don't tell
me you
think I did
it?

What's the
matter?
Why do
you look so
serious?

Wajima-
kun.



I-I just
wanted you
to help me
work it all
out!

OF...OF
course I
don't!

Ushikaru-kun took that picture and sent it to all those students...

Well, a okay... But just so you know.

...HMM?

11:10 AM

At 12:19, remember?

The clock hands in the picture are pointing to 12:19.

Y...yes, Ma'am.

If you really want to play detective...



But I was at the pool until class ended at 12:20.

Teaching your class.

Y...yes, Ma'am.







There might be a switch for the school bell.

This is the Faculty prep room. Why are we here?

The bell?



Come on, Sherdog! The pool's this way!



?!
No way!



Yes. If, for example, it were possible for her to ring the bell five minutes early.

Then she could commit the murder without anyone noticing.

Furthermore,
the restroom
where the
murder was
committed

The school pool
is in a separate
building from the
classrooms.

She could have
ended class early
without the
other students'
knowledge.

is close enough
that she could
run there in a
minute or less.

If she had five
minutes, I believe the
murder would have
been quite possible.

...G-
but...

How about
this as a
possibil-
ity?

A microphone.
To make an-
nouncements
to the pool
building...

What's
that?

...

...I see.

But, it still
doesn't work!
But she
couldn't ring
it at the
wrong time.
She might be
able to turn
the bell off
with a switch.

GLANCE
GLANCE

Hmmm...
Quite
so...



People wouldn't look at the time from the pool.

Yeah. And we do have someone collect all the phones and watches and put them in a locker.



But...

Oh!



That would get her around the time difference...!!

I...I get it...



Huh...? Er, now that you mention it...

Then let me ask you this: did you get the text message from Ushiwaru?



If everyone's phone went off at the same time, the kid collecting them would definitely notice.

There's still the text from Ushiwaru!

The one from 12:19.

If everyone's out of class five minutes early, they'd get it while they were changing.

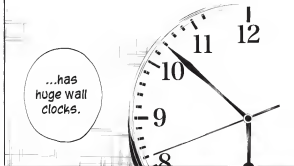


Hm... Then perhaps...

I didn't get it!

He should know my number...







z!

I know how
the murderer
created
the time
difference!!



That's
how she
did it! I
have it!!



the She
hurdle divided
...?

Precisely
so! You
see...

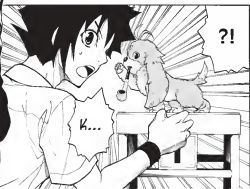


She overcame
the five
minute
hurdle

by
dividing
it up!!



Kikuchi-
sensei!!





Watson...
you know
what to
do.

It's up to
you now!



Uh, no,
OM....

You are
incurable.
...Are you
still playing
your little
detective
game?

I will get
you off of
campus by
force if I
have to.



Arf arf!



Sensei.

I have a
question!

...YEAH!
I KNOW.

I'LL DO
WHAT I CAN,
SHERDOG!!

So why were you walking around with the pool keys until 4:30?

No one was supposed to be here after 12:20...

I thought Fourth period was the last pool class.

...What is it?

You forgot this clunky pile of keys?

Are you referring to the checkout sheet in the security room? ...I forgot to return them.

I had them in my sweat-pants pocket.

Did you forget to return them every day for a whole month?

Why would you keep them every day...For the last month?

All the records before that say you returned them right after the last class.

About a month ago, you suddenly started returning the keys at 4:30.



...happened during swim class.

As I've told you several times, Ushiwakun's suicide...



rehearsing the murder?

She kept them... because she was...



...Wajiwakun.

she came back to set the clocks back to the right time!

And today...



What?

ended, say, five minutes early?

And what if that class



That person could use those extra five minutes to kill Ushiwakun...

If that person were at the pool for fourth period!

What if someone set the clock ahead five minutes,

and made the bell ring five minutes early to match it?



They wouldn't have to make the bell ring early.

...Impossible. The bell rings from the main building.

No one could make it ring early for just the pool...



First, the culprit would turn off the bell in the pool building.

Then instead, they would use the microphone in the prep room.

To play a pre-recorded school bell on a timer.

They would just have to turn it off.



But the bell isn't the only problem.

So the bell from the other building would be completely inaudible.

The pool building is sealed tight. All the sound inside it echoes pretty loudly.

If he did that,
then someone
entering or leaving
the building would
notice.

There are big
clocks here and
in the locker
rooms.

The killer
would have to
set them five
minutes ahead
of everywhere
else.

And if someone
noticed the
difference,
then no more
alibi.

True...

Five
minutes is
a pretty big
difference.

Rmm...
Well...

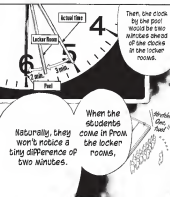
Maybe
in five,
but...

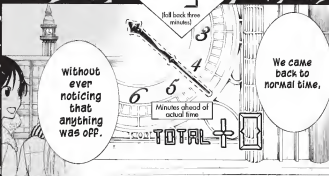
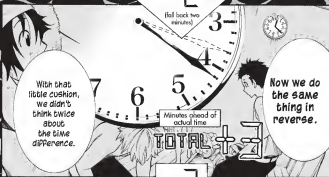
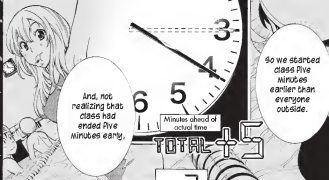
Maybe
no one
would
notice.

But no one
could have
committed
that murder in
less than three
minutes.

See?
So...

But if it
were two
or three
minutes?







That's how
the killer
created
an empty
bubble of five
minutes.

That's
how he
killed Jōya
Ushimaru.

...I see.

If this is how
the murderer
did it, then
they had the
bell set up on
a timer in the
prep room.

Did did you
see it?

Huh?

I went to
the prep
room right
after
class...

Did you
see any-
thing?

...But I
still don't
quite un-
derstand.

You
can do
it!

You
didn't?
Why not?

I just re-
membered...
I didn't
really go to
the prep
room...

Corner
her!

That's it,
Watson.





Careful,
careful...You
don't want to
fall in.

You can't
swim, Wajima-
kon...



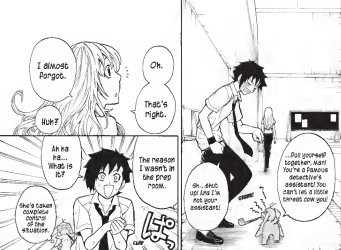
...th...
thanks.

All right.

Let's
go home
now.



B-DMP



Ugh! My cap
must have
been loose...
Now my hair's
all wet!

You're really
sexy with wet
hair... ♡

That's
not what
you were
supposed to
be looking at!

H...hey!

I dropped it
consequently.

It must be a
real pain to
dry when it's
that long, huh,
Sensei?

I didn't have
time to go
to the prep
room.

So it
takes a
lot of time
to dry.

When your
swim cap
comes off,
your hair gets
wet all the way
to the roots.

Or would
you like to
ask the
teachers in
the Faculty
room?

We can
ask them.
If Kikuchi-
sensei's hair
was wet at
lunch.

I would
have used
it all up
drying my
hair.

So even if I did
make a five or
six minute gap
like you say
I did,









Um, I hate to ask, but if you don't mind...

It should be in the dumpster downstairs...

Et hck...



What?!

Rummage through the trash...?

I'll just have to come early tomorrow to rummage through the trash...

Sigh... Fine. It's too dark today.



Well... Goodbye, Kikuchi-sensei...

Ack! Sure...

It's hard to walk around in just one shoe...

Sorry...

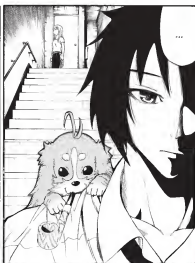
Would you take these keys back to the security room?



...IT'S OKAY.

IT'S NOT A PROBLEM...

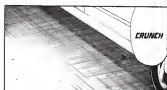
THE GARBAGE HAS ALREADY BEEN...



KNOCK
KNOCK

Security Room







Here it is...

What
are you
doing
there?



FLASH

!!



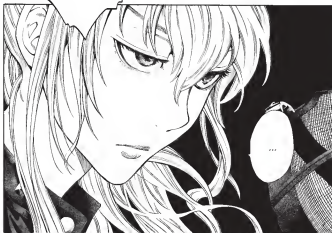
Kikuchi-
sensei?



Wajima...

...kun...





Kikuchi-
sensei!!

SHERLOCK BONES

Please
turn
yourself
in!

Do it...

You can
do it,
Watson...

It's time
for the
coup de
grâce!!







and made your way to the second floor restroom in the main school building.

Changed your clothes



Be-
cause...



Jōya
Ushimaru.

You knew he'd be there. He was always there smoking on Wednesdays at Fourth period.







...took the picture of the clock tower...

...typed out the suicide note on Ushiwaro's phone, just like you'd practiced...



...and sent it to all his contacts in the school.



...You put the knife in his hand...







You took
all the
evidence—the
blood-covered
vinyl coat, the
wig—



and threw
it down the
garbage chute.



and take
everything
away. Or
it was
supposed to.

The garbage
truck would
come within two
hours,



Yes.



Kikuchi-
sensei!

...Am I
right?





Remember when you ran into Mamoru and me at that restaurant...?

Wajima-kun.



I WON'T! BUT I DON'T THINK ASA SHOULD HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH TRUE LOVE...



I'M SORRY, BUT WOULD YOU PLEASE NOT TELL ANYONE?

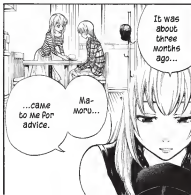


I think I understand why you killed Ushimaru... But...

I'M HIS MOTHER!

...Yes. That's why...

GGGGL
SZZT! OH, YOU'VE GOT HOT LOVERS, SILLY!
GGGGL



...came to me for advice.

Mamoru...

It was about three months ago...



You don't understand.
You don't understand anything...

Sen-sei...!



What...

Mom...
I...

I smoked a
cigarette...

Then he
threatened
me...and
made me
smoke,
too...

One of the older
students was
smoking in the
bathroom...I ran
into him on my
way back from the
nurse's office...

Wh...why
would
you...?



...

Am I...am
I gonna be
expelled...?

B-but I know
that's no
excuse... I'm
sorry...



If he threatened you, then you didn't do it of your own free will, right?

Silly boy.



I...can't tell you...!

I...I can't tell you...



So who was it? Who made you smoke?



Then...



I looked at the medical office records to find out when Mamoru would have been smoking.

It was Jōya Ushimaru.

I discovered one student who would always be counted on to skip class at just that time.



I made him
write an
apology,
promising he
would never
smoke again.



I ambushed
him in the
bathroom.

I caught
him in the
act of
smoking.

Of course, I never
told him that I had
heard anything
from Mamoru.



In exchange,
I promised
to settle the
matter quietly,
and not tell the
administration...

and Mamoru
became the
target of that
vicious bullying!!

But Ushimaru
was convinced
that Mamoru
had sold him
out...



I had...

I had no
idea...!!



...When it
happened
...

I...was
teaching
class. I
had no
idea...



...

that my son
had killed
himself...



And...

Mamoru...

You're his mother! How could you let this happen!!

After school that day,

and took a call from my ex-husband—he had custody of Mamoru.

I hid in a deserted bathroom in the corner of the old school building...

But...I don't know why, either...

I'm sorry...

YOU COULD BE IN BIG TROUBLE!

HEY! THERE'S STILL COPS HANGING AROUND. USHIMARU-KUN!!

...



Why did you do it... Mamoru...?

Why...

W...well, the cops might ask you questions.

Let's just stop smoking here for a while, okay?!

That's Ushimaru-kun's voice...

Why would I be in trouble?

Don't be stupid!



We should
lay low!

We all really
bullied the crap out
of that Ayase kid.
Especially you.

!!
....



Seriously,
who kills
themselves?

Over a little
bullying...

Huh
...?

...Whaaa?
Why should I...?



...Bullied?
Mamoru...?



He wasn't
gonna live
long anyway.

It was like
that...

Come on, he was
always just a
pansy.



**...I don't
get why
anyone
would kill
himself...**



**I really
don't get
it!**

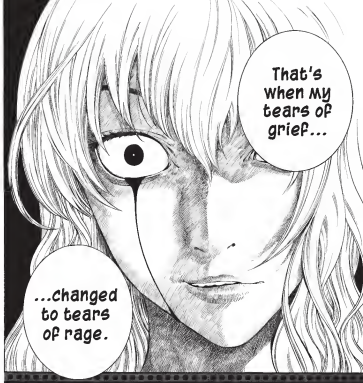
**if it's that
bad, why
doesn't he
come at me
with a bat or
something?!**

I'd just beat the crap
out of 'em through the
bat!



**What a pain
in the ass.**

Seriously.



Is it true?

...Hey, I heard
a rumor that
Ushimaru and
his gang are
bullying you...

Wajima-
sempai... ...Oh.

NOT TOO
LONG
BEFORE
MAMORU
DIED...

Whoops...

Hey, you
okay?

Uh...no,
she's been
busy...

Have you
been seeing
Sensei?

I-I'm fine!
Ha ha...

She'd get
really
worried...

Please...don't
say anything
about that
rumor...to my
mother.

S-Sempai...
um...

Hm?



I know!

She does
tend to
worry...



...Oh. Well...
If you say
so...



...!

She's really...a
warm person,
you know?

...If I had
just told
you...

I'm sure.
That one
was for
me...



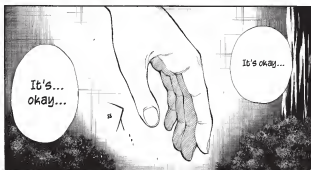
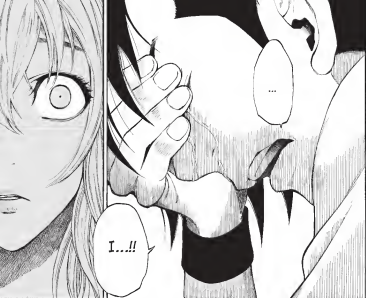
What? Are
you sure?

Sempai,
here. You
can have
this.

That Maworu...
was being
bullied...



Maybe...
this never
would have
happened.
I...





**Thank
you.**

**Wajima-
kun.**

That was
the end...

...

...of a long
day for
me and
Sherdog...

Yes,
ma'am...



た た た た



Yeah, yeah, yeah.

You better actually show up at club today!



...Well, I'm just a ghost member.

Ugh! I got you into that club! You're making me look bad!

So why aren't you more worked up about it?

Isn't this exactly where the London Academy Paper would come in?!



...So hey, Sherdog.

That was a tough one, even for the great Sherlock Holmes...

She was quite the formidable opponent...

The woman teacher, Karen Kikuchi...



That's Sherlock.

...I had to take a chance. Forgive me.

You really startled me when you took off with my shoe.



was long
gone, thanks
to those trash
collectors.



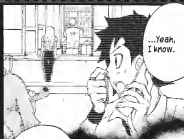
You know
that the real
evidence



and caught
Sensei when
she came
to find the
evidence,



We may not
have solved
this case.



...Yeah,
I know.



If I hadn't
made that
fake call,



Whaaaaat?!

Why?

...you may be
doomed to a
life of solving
crimes!

Ack.

Now that
the great
Sherlock
Holmes
has been
reborn...

What?

I'll have you
know this
isn't the
end of it,
Watson.

for me and
my dog to
solve.

Still, just as
Sherdog
predicted,

the future
was filled
with all
kinds of
mysteries

To be continued in Volume 2

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Taro and Jiro (page 16)

As Takeru's Father suggests, there is a movie *Nankyoku Monogatari* (released in the United States as *Antarctica*) about a Japanese expedition to the South Pole, and the fate of the dogs that were left behind when the expedition failed. The two lead dogs are Taro and Jiro. The other dog names suggested by Takeru's Father are Pochi, the Japanese equivalent of Spot; Hachikō, after the faithful dog who waited for his master every day at the Shibuya train station; Patrasche, the title dog in the book *A Dog of Flanders*; and Shiro, meaning White.

In My Office (page 20)

Officer Wajima's office will be found at the nearby *kōban*, loosely translated as "police box." *Kōban* are like miniature police stations, spread throughout the community, bringing the police close to the community so they can respond more readily to the citizens' needs.

Wa To Son (page 35)

While they usually represent ideas (words), Chinese characters can be used to represent syllables or sounds to spell foreign words phonetically. The name written on Takeru's bike is, of course, his name, Wajima Takeru (with his family name first, as is the custom in Asian languages). The three characters in his name can be pronounced Wa Jima Takeru, or Wa To Son. The *O* after the *T* is swallowed (almost silent), and so when said quickly, it forms the name Watson.

Plum Group, (page 38)

The closest thing Takeru has to the sort of hat Sherlock Holmes is known for wearing is his old preschool hat. You can tell it's from his earlier education based on the fact that his class, instead of having a number or letter, is named after a fruit.

Non-swimmers (page 151)

Just a bit of trivia: what Karen Kikuchi actually called this bunch was "hammer boys," because in Japan, someone who can't swim is called a "hammer."

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